

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

Pre-kindergarten Program

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education (OSSE/ECE) is responsible for coordinating early childhood education services for District of Columbia children and their families.

The Pre-kindergarten Program is authorized by the Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion Act of 2008, effective July 18, 2008 (D.C. Law 17-202; D.C. Official Code §38-271.01 *et seq.*) (2010 Supp.); as amended by the Pre-k Acceleration and Clarification Emergency Amendment Act of 2010, effective February 6, 2010 (D.C. Act 18-307); including any temporary and permanent versions of this Act, and Mayor's Order 2009-44 (March 27, 2009). The District of Columbia is committed to providing high quality early education to the children of the District of Columbia. All children with verified residency in the District of Columbia, who are of pre-kindergarten (Pre-K) age are eligible to be served in the Pre-kindergarten Program regardless of race, ethnicity, income, religion or membership in other protected groups. This legislation is a key part of the OSSE's goal to ensure that all District of Columbia children will be ready for school and that all District residents receive an excellent education for success in the 21st century.

Request for Applications:

The OSSE/ECE seeks to award grants to eligible organizations to establish Pre-K classrooms that provide high-quality early educational services to Pre-K age children. It intends to fund multiple grantees. District of Columbia appropriated funds in the amount of \$11,629 per child are available to support grant awards for a maximum award of \$186,064 per each three (3)-year old or mixed age classroom and \$232,580 for each four (4)-year old classroom.

Applications are requested from:

- Community-based organizations that provide early childhood education programs;
- Nonprofit or for-profit organizations that participate in federally-funded and/or District- funded early childhood programs, including the Child Care Subsidy Program; or
- Faith-based organizations that are licensed to operate a child development facility in the District of Columbia.

Applicants must meet high-quality standards and program requirements as defined by Section 38-272.01 of the Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion Act of 2008.

Important Dates:

The RFA will be available on **Friday, September 24, 2010**. Applications may be obtained from the Office of Partnerships and Grants Services website (www.opgs.dc.gov) at the District Grants Clearinghouse link until September 30, 2010. On October 1, 2010, the District Grants Clearinghouse link will be housed at the Office of the City Administrator website (www.oca.dc.gov). Applications may also be obtained from 810 First Street, NE, 4th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20002. Please call (202) 727-1839. The **deadline for application submission is Monday, October 25, 2010, at 3:30 p.m. EST.**

The Pre-Application Conference will be held on **Tuesday, October 5, 2010**, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon at 810 First Street, NE – 4th Floor Conference Room, Washington, DC 20002. For preparation purposes, interested parties planning to attend the Pre-Application Conference are requested to RSVP to Ms. Angelia McDuffie at (202) 727-1839 or angelia.mcduffie@dc.gov.